

## **Water When Irrigation Water Turns Off**

Without irrigation water, trees and shrubs may need supplemental water. If there isn't enough precipitation, water deeply around the drip line of the tree. (That's where the finer roots that will absorb the water are, not around the trunk of the tree.) Check the soil with a screwdriver. If it is damp, the screwdriver will go in fairly easily. It should be damp to 18-24 inches deep. If it isn't, water with a soaker hose. As a general rule, apply 10 gallons of water for each diameter inch of the tree. For example, a two-inch diameter tree needs 20 gallons per watering. Use a ruler to measure your tree's diameter at 6" above ground level.

Small established shrubs (less than 3 feet tall) should receive 5 gallons monthly. Large established shrubs (more than 6 feet) require 18 gallons on a monthly basis. Decrease amounts to account for precipitation. Water within the dripline of the shrub and around the base.

Think about using wastewater too. When running taps to get hot water, fill a bucket and put it on your shrubs or trees.